



The Pyrenees Post...

spreading the word about the Southeast's best kept secret.



GPRRA Thanksgiving Match - October 27, 2020

Dear Great Pyrenees Friends,

Our Thanksgiving Match is well underway and although we are making progress, we have a long way to go to make this year's match the huge success we need it to be. Each week we will share one of the many stories that are typical of our rescues throughout the year. Our second story is about Martha, who was in rough shape and with a lot of TLC from her foster, (now owner) is living the good life.

Martha's Story from her Foster/Adopter

Upon hearing about Martha from GPRRA and seeing her sad eyes, our hearts were called into action. After all, we already had three dogs (two adopted Pyrs); therefore, we had the best chance of not being a foster failure. I knew I could help this one find her forever home. Also, it was the start of COVID and a perfect time to help another Great Pyrenees.

Upon arriving at Pet Lodge with my daughter to pickup Martha, I immediately assessed that this tremendously shy, big dark-eyed girl had special needs. She was missing fifty percent of her coat, had been diagnosed as heartworm positive, would not take one step on a leash and would not look up. She was the most shut down dog I had ever seen. For the first two weeks, we had to gently wheelbarrow Martha in and out of the house for potty breaks because she would not walk on a leash. I often wondered; is Martha so shut down that she cannot trust? When she began to trust and venture out a short distance, I was often stranded outside with her, because I had forgotten to bring treats to bribe her back into the house.

To increase Martha's trust, my daughter would cradle her head in her lap and either sing or talk to Martha for indefinite amounts of time. In return, Martha would snore and purr (yes, she purrs in a dog type way) in gratefulness for the love.

After four weeks, we took Martha for further testing, and it was determined that she had a nonfunctioning thyroid and pituitary glands. As a result of this deficiency, this sweet dog had to learn how to compensate, for who knows how long, for a brain that was foggy, confused and unreliable. Martha would not venture on her own outside or walk on a leash, because she could not trust her brain to get her back. It is really sad to think how much Martha struggled as a young dog.

Fast-forward four months, Martha survived the horrible heartworm treatment (thanks to GPRRA) and is on medication for her thyroid. Ever so slowly, Martha continues to gain trust in her brain and body, venturing out on her own to the back fence line but quickly returning. She was still waking up foggy brained, and we often had to help her find the door to get outside while her brain processes what she is being asked to do. At this point, this special needs girl was not 100 percent and we were thinking she may never be, but she was now our special needs girl and because my daughter fell totally in love with her and so did we so we decided to give her a furever home with us. We love you Martha!

Fast forward one more month, during her recent spay procedure 2 large cysts were found on her ovaries which could also have been contributing to her malfunctioning thyroid. Dr. Bonny said we should see even more positive changes in her going forward and we did. We can not believe her transformation after thyroid diagnosis, heartworm treatment and removal of cysts. She is all over the backyard guarding and a very happy girl. For a while there we did not think she would get to 100% but she is there. She is just growing in her coat and she is the sweetest PYR ever.

John,
GPRRA President and Founder

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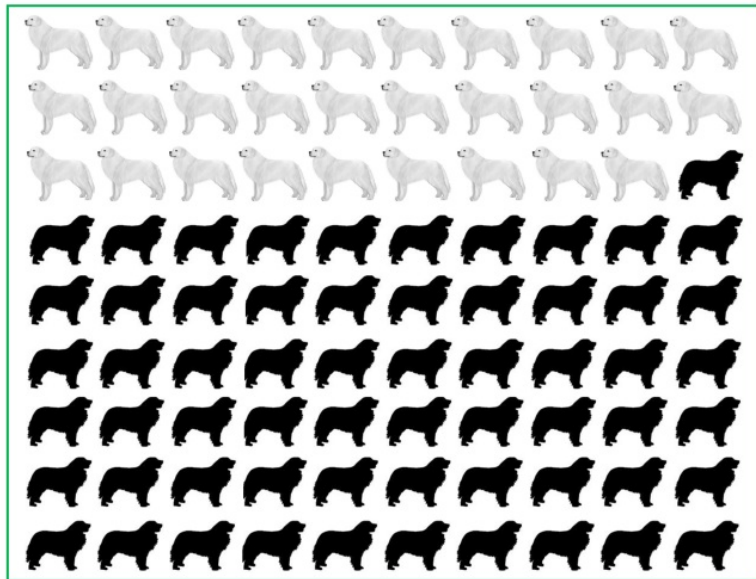
Martha



Martha

**Progress towards
\$100,000 Goal**

Each white PYR represents amounts collected toward our goal of raising enough to save 90 PYRS. Click [HERE](#) to donate



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2021 Calendars Coming Soon

Watch your emails, the new 2021 GPRA calendars will be available soon and are filled with lots of great PYR pictures.

Upcoming Adoption Days

To be scheduled once the Coronavirus threat subsides
Meet n' Greet for approved applicants are available

Great Pyrenees Rescue of Atlanta
404.829.2609

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